



# PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION | Mark Johnson, *Superintendent of Public Instruction*

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DATE: October 2, 2019  
TO: Selected Stakeholders  
FROM: Sherry Thomas, Exceptional Children Division *ST*

## State Systemic Improvement Plan

As NCDPI moves into the fifth year of implementing the North Carolina [State Systemic Improvement Plan](#) (SSIP) to advance outcomes for students with disabilities (SWD), the Exceptional Children (EC) Division is reconvening the SSIP state design team. The NC SSIP focuses on increasing the 5-year adjusted cohort graduation rate for SWD faster than the all-student rate. Based on overall data since 2015, the gap is closing but there is still a need to strengthen/concentrate the work for school year 2019-20.

The state-level SSIP team will have an internal DPI core which will meet twice a month, per the schedule below, and an external stakeholder group to partner with DPI in providing rigorous, relevant, and sensitive supports to NC Local Education Agencies (LEAs) and State Operated Programs (SOPs) as they educate students with and without disabilities.

Given your role and area of expertise, the EC Division is inviting you to serve on the SSIP state design team through June, 2020. For background information, you can review the annual reports from the project [here](#). Regular participation in SSIP meetings and some offline work, depending on assignment to a workgroup, are basic expectations for team members—more detailed terms of engagement will be set at our first meeting on November 1, 2019, from 10:00a-12:00p. External stakeholders will join the Tuesday meetings, reflected in the schedule below.

Thank you for considering participating in this important work. Please notify Lauren Holahan, SSIP Coordinator, at [lauren.holahan@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:lauren.holahan@dpi.nc.gov) by October 11, 2019, of your decision to join the team. If you are not able to participate, please let Lauren know who might serve as suitable alternative to represent your discipline/Division. Once the SSIP team is established, calendar invitations for the 2019-20 meetings will be sent out from Kelly Breest.

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Fri, Nov 1, 2019	1-3p	
Tue, Nov 12, 2019	10a-12p	
Fri, Dec 6, 2019	1-3p	
Tue, Dec 17, 2019	10a-12p	
Fri, Jan 3, 2020	1-3p	
Tue, Jan 14, 2020	10a-12p	
Fri, Feb 7, 2020	1-3p	
Tue, Feb 18, 2020	10a-12p	
Fri, Mar 6, 2020	1-3p	
Tue, Mar 17, 2020	10a-12p	
Fri, Apr 3, 2020	1-3p	
Tue, Apr 21, 2020	10a-12p	
Fri, May 1, 2020	1-3p	
Tue, May 19, 2020	10a-12p	
Fri, June 5, 2020	1-3p	
Tue, June 16, 2020	10a-12p	

## EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN DIVISION

Sherry H. Thomas, *Director* | [sherry.thomas@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:sherry.thomas@dpi.nc.gov)

6356 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-6356 | (919) 807-3969 | Fax (919) 807-3896

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